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. WASHTENAW IMPRESSIONS .
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Annual Meeting and Annual Reports of the Washtenaw Historical Society for 1952-1953

Annual Tour — In spite of an intensely hot day, with temperature hovering between 95° and 100°, about 50 members of our Society met at the Michigan League, in Ann Arbor, and proceeded to the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn. We were met at the main entrance by Mr. Van Bough, in charge of historical research at the Museum, and were conducted by him personally through the various exhibits. There was something to interest everyone, and we felt particularly fortunate to view the recently opened Henry Ford Personal History Exhibits. We returned to the Michigan Union in Ann Arbor for the annual dinner, with an especially selected warm-weather menu. The president, George Wahr Sallade, presided. Minutes and reports were duly read and accepted. A letter was read from Dr. Alexander Grant Ruthven, President-Emeritus of the University, and one of the primary founders of the Washtenaw Historical Society.

The president announced that a philanthropic citizen of this community has offered to build us a museum building outside of Ann Arbor, and appointed Professor Emil Lorch, Dr. F. Clever Bald, and Mr. Howell Taylor, a committee to consider the matter and report to the Society before any action would be taken.

New Officers — Mrs. Mack Ryan, chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the following slate, which was adopted entire as presented, and the nominees were declared elected.

President - Howell Taylor, Ann Arbor
Vice-President from Ann Arbor - Dr. F. Clever Bald
Vice-President from Dexter - Dr. C. J. Towner
Vice-President from Manchester - Mrs. James Hendley
Vice-President from Saline - Mrs. Bessie Collins
Vice-President from Ypsilanti - Mrs. James Breakey
Secretary-Treasurer - Mrs. I. Wm. Groomes, 1209 S. State, Ann Arbor
Board of Directors
Until July 1, 1954: Prof. Emil Lorch, Miss Adelaide Rueger, Mrs. George Langford
Until July 1, 1955: Ernest Allmendinger, Walter Staebler, Miss Alma Josenhans
Until July 1, 1956: Mrs. R. G. McKenzie, Dr. C. Howard Ross

Annual Report of the Secretary for 1952-1953

Another year is hastening to its close and as we face the coming year, it is interesting to look back to review events since October.

We have held 7 meetings prior to today, and the Executive Board has met 3 times in the Rackham Bldg. Our programs have been varied and interesting.
The November meeting was held in Clements Library, with Dr. Colton Storm as speaker on the subject "1777 - a Year of Decision."
On December 16, Dr. W. W. Florer chose as his topic "The Effect of the Early Schwabian Settlements on the History of Michigan."
In January, members brought interesting relics of the past and told of their history.
In February your secretary was ill and no minutes were taken. However, a tape recording was made of Mrs. Howell Taylor's talk on Washtenaw County Women.
March brought the opening of the museum in Bach School, with a playlet on the naming of Ann Arbor, by Slauson School children under the supervision of Mr. Oakes.
April saw a social meeting with a dinner for the 17 ladies from the Junior Auxiliary of the Detroit Historical Society, at the Michigan Union, and a tea in Rackham Bldg. following a fashion show of historic costumes.
In May Dr. Arthur Pound delightfully entertained us with tales of the Campus Fifty Years Ago.

A great deal of credit for a most successful year goes to Mr. Howell Taylor, who engineered the opening of the museum as well as shouldering most of the responsibility of the style show. Our thanks also go to Miss Adelaide Rueger and her committee who had charge of the refreshments at the opening of the museum, and to Mrs. Nathalie Wahr Sallade for the lovely spring flowers on the refreshment table. Our thanks also go to Mrs. R. E. Spokes, who so ably managed the dinner for the style show at the Union. She not only presented the flowers and tapers for the table, but also presented each of our 17 guests with beautiful corsages from the florist.

Financially speaking, we are still ahead by $60.43 in our general fund with only $1.00 dues for active members, and $5.00 for sustaining members. Our Life Membership Fund (to provide a home for our collections in the future) started the year with $1762.67. We have added to our honored roll of Life members: Miss Ellen Bach, Mr. and Mrs. C. Victor Wurster, Miss Cornelia Copeland, Mr. Carl Feiner, and the Misses Cary and Susan Speechly.

Death has taken from us a rather heavy toll this year, 12 in all. Mr. Emory Skarshaug, Mr. Frank Hepler, Mrs. Louise Davidson, Mrs. B. B. Cannon, Mrs. C. H. Cooley, Mr. Ernest Chapelle, Mrs. Victor Wurster and Mrs. Martha Elliott (life members), Mrs. Ruth Buchanan (Honorary member), Mr. George Chalmers, Mrs. B. F. Burtless (Director from Manchester for several years), and Mrs. Edward Everett. We shall keep them in lasting memory.

Our membership list has had a checkered career. At our Annual meeting last year we had 400 members. Thirty-five have been lost by resignation and removal from the county, and 12 lost by death - a total loss of 47. We have added 43 new members, leaving a net loss of 4, making our membership as of this date 396. This is the first time in the six years I have served as secretary of the Society that I have reported a membership loss at the annual meeting.

To date, 17 have failed to pay their dues since July 1, 1951. Our Constitution states that members who are in arrears for two years must be dropped from membership. I have written personal letters to all those in arrears, and several have responded with checks. I am hoping that when July 1, 1953, comes there will be no one who has forfeited his membership. There are 75 who have not paid 1953 dues, but 60 have paid ahead for 1954, and 10 for 1955.

If there is cause for regret in our record, it is that so few members avail themselves of the privilege of attending our meetings. Won't each of you help by bringing others with you when you attend? We have splendid speakers, and some of the finest members to be found in any organization. Let's share them with others.

Respectfully submitted,
Katherine S. Groomes, Secretary

Annual Report of the Treasurer for 1952-1953

General Fund

Balance, July 1, 1952.		$228.24
Receipts for year 1952-1953:		
Dues.	$445.00	
Interest from Bank	3.21	
Postage from 2 members	1.00	
Dinner, 1952 Monroe trip	96.00	
Dinner, 1953 Union style show	51.00	
Tea at Rackham	29.05	
Total for year.	$625.26	
Expenditures:		
Washtenaw Impressions.	$91.35	
Dinner at Monroe	98.50	
Style show dinner at M. Union	78.74	
Refreshments at museum opening	6.20	
Trucking to museum at Bach School	120.01	
Locks for museum	7.21	
Tea at Rackham	20.06	
Tape recording of Taylor paper	3.33	
Insurance on collections (1 yr.)	34.37	
Maps and story, Monroe trip	19.06	
Cards for 6 meetings (printing & post)	64.63	
Secretary's supplies (incl. postage)	23.37	
Mich. State Historical Soc. dues	5.00	
Total for year.	564.83	
Balance for year.		60.43
Total cash to date in General Fund.		$288.67

Life Membership Fund

Balance, July 1, 1952.		$1762.67
Receipts:		
Miss Ellen Botsford Bach.	$25.00	
Mr. Victor and Mrs. Jane Wurster	50.00	
Miss Cornelia Alice Copeland	25.00	
Mr. Carl Feiner	25.00	
Misses Cary and Susan Speechly	50.00	175.00
Sara Parker Trust Fund.		62.30
Interest from the Bank		17.20
Balance, July 1, 1953.		$2017.17

Respectfully submitted,
Katherine S. Groomes, Treasurer

NEW MEMBERS
since our last issue

Mrs. Thomas I. Biddle
Miss Helen Boyce
Miss Grace Brodie
Mrs. B. Conahy
Mrs. George Cottam
Miss Florence Covert
Miss Josephine Davis
Miss Theresa Elbanowski
Carl Feiner (LIFE)
L. L. Forsythe
Dale P. Fosdick
Mrs. Emerson F. Greenman
Mrs. Isabelle Hole
Mrs. I. Iverson
Mr. & Mrs. Russell G. Kinnel
Mrs. Martha Lyon
Charles B. Masten
Mrs. George P. McCallum
Mrs. Verner McNitt
Edwin C. Oakes
Ward Rohm
Mrs. M. T. Strickland
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas E. Walton
Miss E. June Wrigley
Mrs. Emma Wurster

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/A few more "Smiles" from the 1881 History of Washtenaw County./

At first piano music was taught in the Central Building (Ann Arbor High School), but a few years sufficed to show that the school had higher and worthier functions than teaching instrumental music, and it was dropped.

A number of pretty children indulged in the gaiety which such an occasion inspires and did not fail - children never do - to cause that peculiarly agreeable disturbance, or "chord of the seventh," which varies, as it were, the harmony of such pleasant reunions.

Dr. W. began the practices of the healing art under the clairvoyant system.

He was elected as Justice of the Peace but never qualified, being averse to office holding.

She married J.W., a deceased soldier of the late Rebellion.